

Under the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995, no persons are required to respond to a collection of information unless it displays a valid OMB control number.

**EXPRESS ABANDONMENT UNDER
37 CFR 1.138**Fax directly to the Pre-Grant Publication Division at (703) 305-8568; or
mail to: Mail Stop Express Abandonment
Commissioner of Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

| | |
|------------------------|----------------------|
| Application Number | 10/714,731 |
| Filing Date | 11/17/2003 |
| First Named Inventor | MUROTA, Masamichi |
| Art Unit | 1712 |
| Examiner Name | METZMAIER, Daniel S. |
| Attorney Docket Number | 032301.1801 |

Please check only one of boxes 1 or 2 below:

(If no box is checked, this paper will be treated as a request for express abandonment as if box 1 is checked.)

1. ☒ **Express Abandonment**

I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date of this paper.

2. ☐ **Express Abandonment in Favor of a Continuing Application**

I request that the above-identified application be expressly abandoned as of the filing date accorded the continuing application filed previously or herewith.

NOTE: A paper requesting express abandonment of an application is not effective unless and until an appropriate USPTO official recognizes and acts on the paper. See the Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP), section 711.01.**TO AVOID PUBLICATION, USE FORM PTO/SB/24A INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.****TO REQUEST A REFUND OF SEARCH FEE AND EXCESS CLAIMS FEE (IF ELIGIBLE), USE FORM
PTO/SB/24B INSTEAD OF THIS FORM.**I am the ☐ applicant.☐ assignee of record of the entire interest. See 37 CFR 3.71
Statement under 37CFR 3.73(b) is enclosed. (Form PTO/SB/96)☒ attorney or agent of record. Attorney or agent registration number is 20,531☐ attorney or agent acting under 37 CFR 1.34, who is authorized under 37 CFR 1.138(b) because
The application is expressly abandoned in favor of
a continuing application (box 2 above must be checked). Attorney or agent registration number
is

Signature

Robert G. Weilacher

Typed or printed name

April 13, 2006

Date

(404) 815-3593

Telephone Number

Note: Signature of all the inventors or assignees of record of the entire interest or their representative(s) are required.
Submit multiple forms if more than one signature is required, see below.☐ Total of _____ forms are submitted.

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.138. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process an application). Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Express Abandonment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

If you need assistance in completing the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.